

## *Committee Meetings*

### **MANDATORY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING LAW REVIEW**

*Committee on Agriculture:* Held a hearing to review the mandatory country of origin labeling law. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Charles Lambert, Deputy Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Nancy Bryson, General Counsel; and Keith Collins, Chief Economist; and public witnesses.

### **DEFENSE AND LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Ordered reported the following appropriations for fiscal year 2004: Defense and Legislative.

### **FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1950, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2004 and 2005.

### **FINANCIAL MAINSTREAM—BROADEN ACCESS**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled "Serving the Underserved: Initiatives to Broaden Access to the Financial Mainstream." Testimony was heard from Wayne Abernathy, Assistant Secretary, Financial Institutions, Department of the Treasury; Dennis Dollar, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; and public witnesses.

### **COMPETITIVE SOURCING FOR 21ST CENTURY**

*Committee on Government Reform:* Held a hearing titled "New Century, New Process: A Preview of Competitive Sourcing for the 21st Century." Testimony was heard from David M. Walker, Comptroller, GAO; Angela Styles, Director, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, OMB; Philip Grone, Principal Assistant Deputy Under Secretary, Installations and Environment, Department of Defense; Scott J. Cameron, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Performance and Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

### **ASIA AND THE PACIFIC—U.S. SECURITY POLICY**

*Committee on International Relations:* Subcommittee on East Asia and the Pacific held a hearing on U.S. Security Policy in Asia and the Pacific: Restructuring America's Forward Deployment. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Peter Rodman, Assistant Secretary, International Security Affairs; and Adm. Thomas B.

Fargo, USN, Commander, U.S. Pacific Command; and Christopher LaFleur, Special Envoy, Northeast Asia Security Consultations, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State.

### **AMERICAN SERVICEMEMBERS' PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENTS**

*Committee on International Relations:* Subcommittee on Europe approved for full Committee action H.R. 2550, to amend the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 to provide clarification with respect to the eligibility of certain countries for United States military assistance.

### **HOMETOWN HEROES SURVIVORS BENEFITS**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing on H.R. 919, Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefits. Testimony was heard from Michael E. Williams, Jr., Fire Rescue Training Specialist, Office of the State Fire Marshall, Department of Insurance, State of North Carolina; and public witnesses.

### **OVERSIGHT—CONSULAR IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims held an oversight hearing on "The Federal Government's Response to the Issuance and Acceptance in the U.S. of Consular Identification Cards." Testimony was heard from Roberta S. Jacobson, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; Steven McCraw, Assistant Director, Office of Intelligence, FBI, Department of Justice; C. Stewart Verdery, Assistant Secretary, Policy and Planning, Border and Transportation Security Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; and a public witness.

### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1204, to amend the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 to establish requirements for the award of concessions in the National Wildlife Refuge System, to provide for maintenance and repair of properties located in the System by concessionaires authorized to use such properties; and H.R. 2408, National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Act of 2003. Testimony was heard from Marshall P. Jones, Jr. Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

**NASA FLEXIBILITY ACT**

*Committee on Science:* Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 1085, NASA Flexibility Act of 2003.

**COMPUTER RESERVATION SYSTEMS  
REGULATIONS AND SMALL BUSINESS—  
TRAVEL INDUSTRY**

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform and Oversight held a hearing entitled: "CRS Regulations and Small Business in the Travel Industry" Testimony was heard from Tom Sullivan, Chief Counsel, Office of Advocacy, SBA; and public witnesses.

**NATIONAL RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE  
FINANCING PROPOSALS**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Railroads held an oversight hearing on National Rail Infrastructure Financing Proposals. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Allan Rutter, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration; and Roger Nober, Chairman, Surface Transportation Board; Joseph Boardman, Commissioner, Department of Transportation, State of New York; and public witnesses.

**VETERAN'S LEGISLATION**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 1516, as amended, National Cemetery Expansion Act of 2003; H.R. 2297, as amended, Veterans Benefits Act of 2003; H.R. 116, as amended, Veterans' New Fitzsimons Health Care Facilities Act of 2003; H.R. 1720, as amended, Veterans Health Care Facilities Capital Improvement

Act; H.R. 2357, as amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish standards of access to care for veterans seeking health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 2433, as amended, Health Care for Veterans of Project 112/Project SHAD Act of 2003; H.R. 2595, to restore the operation of the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program during fiscal year 2003 to the scope of that program as in effect on September 30, 2002; and H. Con. Res. 159, declaring Emporia, Kansas, to be the founding city of the Veterans Day holiday and recognizing the contributions of Alvin J. King and Representative Ed Rees to the enactment into law of the observance of Veterans Day.

**PROJECT BIOSHIELD ACT**

*Select Committee on Homeland Security:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 2122, Project BioShield Act of 2003.

---

**NEW PUBLIC LAWS**

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D713 )

S. 342, to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to make improvements to and reauthorize programs under that Act. Signed on June 25, 2003. (Public Law 108–36)

---

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,  
JUNE 27, 2003****Senate**

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

**House**

No committee meetings are scheduled.